

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 7, 2010

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 17, 2010

SENATE BILL

No. 956

**Introduced by Senator Romero
(Coauthors: Senators Alquist and Oropeza)**

February 5, 2010

An act to add Section 14025 to the Unemployment Insurance Code, relating to workforce development.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 956, as amended, Romero. Workforce development: California School Paraprofessional Teacher Training Program.

The federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998 makes funding available to states that offer training and workforce development services through the state and local workforce investment boards. The California Workforce Investment Board, which is the entity responsible for assisting the Governor in the development, oversight, and continuous improvement of California's workforce investment system, is required to recommend strategies to the Governor for strategic training investments of certain discretionary funding made available under the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

~~Existing law also establishes the California School Paraprofessional Teacher Training Program for the purpose of recruiting school paraprofessionals to encourage them to enroll in teacher training programs and to provide instructional service as teachers in the public schools.~~

This bill would require the California Workforce Investment Board, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to allocate \$5,000,000 of the Workforce Investment Act state reserve, as provided for by federal law,

~~to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to increase spending for the California School Paraprofessional Teacher Training Program~~ *local workforce investment boards to allocate to school districts, county offices of education, or charter schools to provide intensive examination preparation courses for the purpose of retraining laid off and out-of-field teachers to meet subject matter competency requirements, in accordance with specified procedures.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 14025 is added to the Unemployment
2 Insurance Code, to read:
3 14025. (a) In accordance with the policies and purposes of the
4 federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. Sec. 2801
5 et seq.), and its implementing regulations, and to the extent that
6 federal funding is made available to the state under the act, the
7 board, upon appropriation by the Legislature, shall allocate five
8 million dollars (\$5,000,000) of the Workforce Investment Act state
9 reserve provided pursuant to Section 2853 of Title 29 of the United
10 States Code ~~to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to~~
11 ~~increase spending for the California School Paraprofessional~~
12 ~~Teacher Training Program (Article 12 (commencing with Section~~
13 ~~44390) of Chapter 2 of Part 25 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the~~
14 ~~Education Code);~~ *local workforce investment boards to allocate*
15 *to school districts, county offices of education, or charter schools*
16 *to provide intensive examination preparation courses pursuant to*
17 *Section 44401 of the Education Code for the purpose of retraining*
18 *laid off and out-of-field teachers to meet subject matter competency*
19 *requirements for teaching science, mathematics, or industrial and*
20 *technology education.*
21 (b) (1) *Preferences for examination preparation courses, as*
22 *prescribed in subdivision (a), shall be based on the following*
23 *priority system:*
24 (A) *First priority shall be for retraining laid off teachers in*
25 *order to prepare them for obtaining subject matter credentials in*
26 *science or mathematics.*

1 (B) *Second priority shall be for retraining teachers who have*
2 *been displaced and are currently working out of their*
3 *field-of-expertise or competency area.*

4 (2) *School districts, county offices of education, and charter*
5 *schools that receive funding from a local workforce investment*
6 *board pursuant to this section shall reimburse each teacher who*
7 *successfully passes his or her examination for the cost of that*
8 *examination.*

9 ~~(b)~~

10 (c) Notwithstanding any other law, any Workforce Investment
11 Act funds allocated or expended by ~~the Commission on Teacher~~
12 ~~Credentialing~~ *local workforce investment boards* pursuant to this
13 section shall be expended for the purposes of statewide
14 employment and training activities, and shall not be allocated or
15 expended in any manner inconsistent with the Workforce
16 Investment Act.